

לע"נ מרת חנה לאה בת הרה"ת ר' **שמעון** ע"ה ברוק נלב"ע ז' טבת, ה'תשע"א 'ת'נ'צ'ב'ה

נדפס על ידי ולזכות משפחתה שיחיו משפחת ברוק, באנון, דייטש ניו יארק. פלארידא. מאנטאנא. מאנטרעאל.

Six Years of Preparation



In the *Shemitah* year, those who have spent the previous six years working the land suddenly change their occupation and become full-time Torah scholars.

This serves as preparation for the year of *Hakhel*, which follows the *Shemitah* year, when all Yidden will listen to the king read the Torah in the *Beis Hamikdash*. Having spent a whole year learning, they are in a much better position to internalize and follow through on the message of

Hakhel, to heed and learn all it says in the Torah.

The plowing and sowing of the previous six years also offer insight as to how a Yid should "work" on Torah during the *Shemitah* year: With the same effort and toil he spent working the land.

But what about a full-time Torah scholar, who never works the land, and *Shemitah* in general is not much of a change for him?

He should take a lesson from the land worker: Just as the land worker has completely broken his routine for *Shemitah*, to a point of transcending logic—abandoning his fields for a full year—so too the Torah scholar must break out of his current Torah routine and be even more involved and immersed in Torah, in a super-rational way.

(Adapted from Sichas Shabbos Parshas Vayera, Chof Cheshvan 5747)